

INSIDE CORRECTIONS

Official Newsletter
of the Kentucky Department
of Corrections



LaDonna Thompson
Commissioner

Vol. 2, Issue 1 - March 2009

DOC Institutions Hit Hard By Snow, Ice Storm Staff Faced Disaster With Courage, Tenacity

By Lisa Lamb
Director of Communications

Although our prisons in Western Kentucky dealt with the lion's share of the weather disaster that struck in late January, none of our facilities went completely untouched by the biggest snow and ice storm this state has seen in over a century.

Twenty-nine deaths were attributed to the storm in Kentucky alone, and at its height, some 769,000 Kentuckians were without power. Damage reports have poured in from 93 of the state's 120 counties and the financial toll of the storm is expected to reach well over \$185 M.

These numbers depict a true disaster - yet within our agency there was no loss of life, there were no escapes and there were no inmates disturbances. This is a testament to the DOC staff who weathered the "Storm of 2009."

Please See COURAGE, Page 6



This snow and ice covered scene near Kentucky State Penitentiary on Jan. 28 was typical of many parts of the state in the storm that has been called the worst to hit Kentucky in over a century. Ten of the state institutions lost power during the storm, three for extended periods of time.

Blackburn's Canine Companions Program Has First Graduates

By Lisa Lamb
Director of Communications

If the first graduation ceremony of Blackburn's Canine Companions is any indication of its long-range success, the program's sure to be a winner. Canine

Companions is the fifth dog program in our state institutions and the remaining eight prisons have begun reviewing what type of program they would like to implement. Staff from Northpoint attended the Blackburn graduation to get

some ideas and talk with coordinators of the program.

Why the sudden or renewed emphasis on these types of programs?

They work.

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FCDC 'Work Camp' Lives Up to Name

It is no secret that there are a lot of level one and level two inmates behind the fence at our medium security facilities. There are also a good portion of low custody inmates that are only one category III write-up away from going behind the fence.

As someone who has worked in both custody levels, I know that one population is no easier than the other in terms of management. The inmates at minimum institutions tend to have more needs, are more anxious about upcoming release opportunities and the urgency of getting in and completing programs, while those behind a fence tend to be more laid back and have typically 'settled in' to doing their time. While to most those behind a fence are assumed to be more dangerous they are usually the "same" inmates as those at minimum security facilities.

Our Department refers to our minimum security facilities as "work camps" and at Frankfort Career Development Center that is exactly what we do.

Frankfort Career Development Center is the smallest minimum security facility - sitting on the "hill" with a picturesque view of the State Capitol. With an inmate complement of 205 and a total staff complement of 47 full-time and one part-time staff, we are still tasked with the same mission as every other state prison, "to protect



By Kim Whitley
Warden

Frankfort Career Development Center

Please See PRISON WIRE, Page 5

P&P's District 4 Plays Unique Role in DOC

The District 4 Probation and Parole Office, which is also referred to as Louisville Central, is unique in that it is the only district in the state that does not supervise offenders on probation or parole.

Located on the 7th and 10th floors of the Chestnut Centre in downtown Louisville, the main mission of this office is in the preparation of the Pre- and Post-Sentence Investigation (PSI) reports for the 13 Divisions that comprise the Jefferson Circuit Court. Offender supervision in Jefferson County is handled via the four separate district offices located within the county. In addition, District 4 is also the main records office for all of the Jefferson County offices.

Currently, District 4 is comprised of a staff of 16 officers and investigators, 6 office support staff, one assistant supervisor and one district supervisor. In the



From The Field



By Harley Allen
Supervisor
P&P District 4

2008 calendar year, District 4 completed over 4,000 PSI reports for the courts which is approximately 18% of the total PSI's written in the entire state.

In addition to PSI reports, District 4 functions like many other districts in that the office completes new and modified Sex Offender Registrations, assists in Civil Rights applications, and provides staff to testify at Truth In Sentencing hearings for the Jefferson Circuit Courts.

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Commissioner's Corner

I'm always proud of this agency, and of the men and women who have chosen the field of Corrections as their career. But over the past eight weeks we have seen our employees and administrators challenged in ways unlike any other and they have risen to the challenge.



Commissioner
LaDonna Thompson

They passed the test.

Not that I ever had any doubt, I am just all the more proud to be your commissioner and to lead an agency of employees who can go through the type of experiences brought on by the worst snow and ice storm our state has seen in perhaps a century and still carry out our primary mission: public safety.

The fact that we came through the Storm of 2009 with no loss of life, no escapes and no inmate disturbances is a testament to those of you who were working during this difficult time. You proved that in the worst of times you

Please See CORNER, Page 5

Employee Recognition



District 19 P&P Officer John Madeya was honored for his work in the apprehension of fugitive Shaun Burke and the safe return of two abducted children. Commissioner LaDonna Thompson presented Madeya with a certificate of commendation and a DOC gold coin.

Officer's Work Praised By Family

(Editor's Note: The following note is an email Probation & Parole District Supervisor Jim Wagner received praising the work of one of his officers, John Madeya.)

Dear Officer Wagner,

The purpose of this e-mail is to propose a commendation for Officer John Madeya. We credit the work of Officer Madeya for the apprehension of Shaun Burke, and the subsequent return of our grandchildren, Patrick and Shaun Burke, to their mother, our daughter, Shannon Burke.

Given what we are sure is a large and difficult case load, my family and I could never have asked for anyone to work any harder than Officer Madeya. In addition, he followed-up with us on a regular basis, and showed true compassion for our plight. It is truly rare to find that perfect mix of professionalism, dedication, skill, and humanity, that were embodied in the work of Officer Madeya on this case. Because of that, we have a new-found level of admiration for the often-unrecognized dedication of men such as Officer Madeya.

Please consider this fine man for a commendation for his work on this case. He is a jewel in the crown of the Office of Probation & Parole-Fugitive Unit. Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Suzanne and Ben Kelley (children's grandma & grandpa)

Shannon Burke (children's mom)

VanHoose Among Those Inducted Into Hall of Fame

Lelia VanHoose, Director of the Division of Probation & Parole for the Kentucky Department of Corrections' added another credit to her resume recently when she was inducted into her high school's Hall of Fame.

VanHoose and 14 other distinguished graduates of Johnson Central High School were honored in a ceremony that was presented by the school's alumni association.

The alumni association selected graduates of the school whose "contributions helped shape the rich tradition of the high school," according to the induction program.

VanHoose, a 1980 graduate of the high school, has the distinction of being the first Johnson Central High female athlete to earn a basketball scholarship and play for four years.

As a star player for the Johnson Central team, VanHoose was named to the All-District Team three times, and the All-



Lelia VanHoose
Director
Division Probation & Parole

Region Team in 1980. She was honorable mention All-State in 1979 and 1980. She was named the MVP of her team three times and scored over 1,500 points during her high school career and had over 1,000 rebounds. She set the school record for most rebounds in a game (27).

VanHoose's stellar performance caught the attention of Georgetown College and she was recruited to play for the Tigers. While at Georgetown, she continued to excel, scoring 1,108 points and 776 rebounds during her career. She was recognized as a single game Conference Player of the Week multiple times and broke several school records including: most rebounds in a game (19) and most steals in a single game (9).

After graduating from Georgetown College with a bachelor's in sociology, VanHoose went to work for Georgetown College as an assistant women's basketball coach.

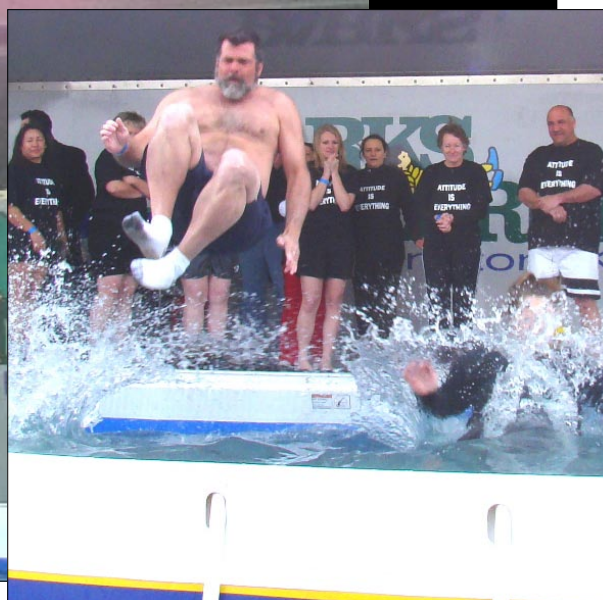
VanHoose then went to work for the Commonwealth as a probation and parole officer and for the past 24 years, has served the Department of Corrections. She has received awards for District Employee of the Year, State Assistant District Supervisor of the Year and District Supervisor of the Year. She is credited with leading the Kentucky Division of Probation & Parole to its first national accreditation by the American Correctional Association.



TAKING THE PLUNGE!

A 'Polarazing Experience'

DOC employees and even a few loyal family members braved the cold temperatures outside and even colder water temperatures for the 2009 Polar Bear Plunge for Special Olympics held in Lexington on Feb. 21. The Department of Corrections won the award for the largest law enforcement team with 27 Plungers and was only barely surpassed in total fundraising by Team Toyota. The total amount raised by Team DOC was \$8,236 which included a \$4,000 contribution from the Blackburn Veterans Club. The State KCCD Chapter donated T-shirts for the plungers. Above: Northpoint's Tim Settles, FCDC's Beth Moore, and Blackburn's Alan Long 'dive in.' At right: Allison Clifton, Central Office, was supported in the event by her 9-year-old son, Shiloh. Below: P&P's Steve Turner and Victor Hack, and Parole Board Executive Director Charles Wilkerson added a touch of humor to warm the event! Bottom right: Northpoint CTO Michael O'Donnell proved cold really is just a state of mind.



Corner

From Page 2

never lost sight of priorities. You took steps to ensure basic needs of the inmate population were met and you helped your fellow employee time and time again.

We talk a lot in Corrections about the hazards associated with the job. Usually we're referring to the aspect of our job where we come into contact with dangerous inmates or the dangers associated with the supervision of offenders. The recent assault of a correctional officer at the Kentucky State Reformatory and the bombing incident at our Glasgow Probation & Parole Office highlight the dangers associated with our profession. It takes a very strong character and a heart for public service to return to work in the wake of such an event.

The storm took us into yet another realm of danger: where employees were faced with critical conditions both inside and out, with limited staff to handle the situation. There were complete power outages, food shortages, fuel shortages, equipment failures... and many of you worked through it all despite suffering personal loss or destruction of property as well.

I realize it may sound trite, but I sincerely appreciate each and every one of you and I commend you on the job you did during this crisis and the job you do every day for the Department and the citizens of the Commonwealth.

March of Dimes Fundraising Underway



Cookout for a Cause

"Grill Masters" Jeff Hulker, Meredith Sanford, and John Collett do their best to fan the flames on fundraising efforts for the March of Dimes campaign.

Prison Wire

From Page 2

the citizens of the Commonwealth and to provide a safe, secure and humane environment for staff and offenders. . ."

However, our other main purpose is to prepare our offenders for reintegration into society.

This is primarily achieved through the Governmental Service Program where inmate labor is used to supplement the workforce of state government agencies and through which the inmates obtain real-life work experience.

Frankfort Career Development Center maintains approximately 35 Memorandum of Agreements with various state agencies.

On a daily basis over two-thirds of the inmate population go out into the community to work in a variety of job areas: mechanical, food service, maintenance, carpentry, janitorial, landscaping, clerical and general labor.

With this program come concerns for security and control.

The inmates are supervised by state employees who have gone through specific training as part of the Governmental Service Program. The state employees do this in addition to their regular job duties.

Since the inmates are in the community there is the potential for them to obtain goods and contraband, use drugs and/or alcohol, develop relationships, manipulate co-workers, reconnect with past associates, have unauthorized communication that is unmonitored, and escape.

Few individuals that work behind a fence have experienced the overwhelming feeling of getting a call that an inmate has escaped - but ask anyone that has worked at a camp and they can tell you it is not a good feeling. However when one of your offenders is offered a full-time position as a result of the Governmental Services Program, it makes it all worthwhile.

The Governmental Services program may be a headache at times for security reasons, but in the long run it is not only beneficial to our reintegration initiatives, it saves the state a significant amount of money and as taxpayers that's a benefit for all of us.

(Beth Moore, Classification & Treatment Officer II, at Frankfort Career Development Center contributed to this column.)

(Editor's Note: "Prison Wire is a column that is a regular feature of Inside Corrections. Guest columnists will be wardens or prison administrators within the Kentucky Correctional system.)



Storm of 2009

Above: Thick ice blanketing tree limbs and electric poles caused a great deal of the problems associated with the storm and wreaked havoc for utility workers and all Kentuckians. Top right: A minimum-security detail at GRCC helped clear this road and countless others in Muhlenberg County. County officials told the warden they could not have made it through the storm without the additional assistance. At right: Scenes like this downed tree near KSP were common across several parts of the state.



Courage

From Page 1

Kentucky State Penitentiary was without full power for seven days. Due to the size and age of the prison, generators were insufficient to maintain adequate heat throughout, and temperatures dipped into the 40s at one point in some of the inmate housing units.

Western Kentucky Correctional Complex operated solely on generator power for 10 days.

Our third prison in the area, Green River Correctional Complex, is located in one of the areas that was hit hardest by the storm. Thousands of families were without power in Muhlenberg County for weeks after the storm.

In the midst of this disaster we saw actions of exemplary courage and camaraderie and more stories continue to surface even now.

At the peak of the ice storm, we had scores of staff at all of our prisons that

managed to make it in to work every shift – on roads that had trees, limbs, power lines and poles across them.

We had an employee who rode a four-wheeler in order to make it to work and several employees who parked their vehicles and walked because the roads were blocked with fallen trees and limbs. They did this because they knew if they didn't, posts would be left unmanned and they understand public safety depends on it.

They also did it at a time when their own families were without heat and power.

At all of our institutions, even though administrators were dealing with their own internal emergency sit-

uations, they dispatched staff with inmate work crews to help clear roads for emergency vehicles, police and utility workers.

The stories we are hearing from these crews during the immediate aftermath of the storm are heart-wrenching.

One crew from the Green River prison gave firewood and water to a mother and her four children who were trying to break sticks to stay warm near one of the roads where the crew was working.

County officials described assistance from this prison's work crews as "like gifts at Christmas" because they

Please See DISASTER, Page 7

Disaster

From Page 6

cleared so many completely impassable roads. These same officials later told Warden Nancy Doom they don't know what they would have done without this manpower and assistance.

One common theme was evident throughout the disaster: working together. Staff worked together to not only survive the storm but also to ensure the survival of each institution's inmate population. Then by working together, they provided whatever assistance was possible to the communities where they are located.

Examples of Department of Corrections' staff courage and community spirit throughout this disaster are numerous:

- Staff volunteered and cut up firewood for other employees that used firewood as their heat source;
- Numerous staff members opened up their homes and provided hot showers, kerosene heaters, kerosene, gas, food, and other critical items to staff who were in dire need of those services or items. As an employee's power was restored, they would pass along their alternate heat sources and other items to staff still without power.
- When a total loss of communication occurred to KSP, WKCC Warden Becky Pancake dispatched a staff member to check on the status of staff and the institution and report back to Frankfort.



KSP Warden Tom Simpson was very appreciative of the generous donation of food from the Correctional Peace Officers (CPO) Foundation during the snow and ice storm. The organization brought in cases of water and other dry food staples that did not require refrigeration. The CPO has two basic goals: first, to sustain, support and assist the survivors of a Correctional Officer killed in the line of duty; and, second, to promote and project a positive image of the Correctional Officer to the general public and within the profession itself. The Foundation now also operates an extensive Catastrophic Assistance Program to assist Correctional Officers and/or their families in times of emergency, personal crisis or other critical need. Pictured with Warden Simpson are CPO members **Ellis Peoples** (left) and **Earl McAllister**. The organization is truly living up to its motto: "Taking Care of Our Own."

- One staff member organized a lunch from her church and fed fellow staff members a hot homemade meal;
- Employees secured hotel lodging with their own funds when the weather worsened to make sure shifts were cov-



ered;

- One of the prison's librarians came in on third shift and fixed pancakes on third shift during the height of the storm;
- Hundreds of blankets and kerosene heaters were sent in from the LaGrange area prisons to prisons without electricity;
- Staff helped clear roads so other employees could make it in to work;
- At one prison, washed sets of clothing in the middle of night for inmates who

were on the work crews. They placed the clothes at the end of their bunks to dry overnight so the inmate workers would have clean clothes to wear back out on the work details clearing roads;

- Staff went and picked up other employees to get them to work and helped take them home if they did not have a ride, regardless of the time of night;
- Numerous employees slept at our prisons in offices and elsewhere to ensure

Please See STORM, Page 8



Justice & Public Safety Cabinet Secretary J. Michael Brown toured the western Kentucky prisons to get a first-hand look at the conditions and to show his support. In the top photo he is pictured with the Maintenance staff from KSP. Above he discusses the dire situation with KSP's Jimmy Lamb and Commissioner LaDonna Thompson.

Storm

From Page 7

shifts were covered, staff and inmate needs were met. Several reported to work despite their own vehicle accidents or destruction to their homes due to the storm. Many employees worked 16+ hour shifts for several days in a row in order to get through this emergency;

- 38 National Guard troops deployed to the

county were housed at the Western Kentucky Correctional Complex along with an Air Force Satellite Communications Unit that was brought in to set-up a satellite communications and data command center in Eddyville;

- All of the prison administrators allowed staff and their families who had no heat or power to stay at the facilities during this crisis;

- At Western, since the

prison was the only site in the whole area to have electricity due to its generators, the prison began providing needed laundry services to EMS workers, the National Guard, and local police throughout the disaster;

All across the state, inmate work crews and the DOC Correctional Officers who supervise them were out in the hours immediately after the storm hit clearing limbs and fallen trees from roadways.

— From Blackburn Cor-

rectional Complex in Fayette County, another area that was hit hard by the storm, they started sending out additional inmate cleanup crews with chain saws immediately after the storm. Approximately 30 inmates helped the Department of Transportation and other agencies.

— Inmates from Northpoint Training Center worked to clean up of debris along roadsides. The

Please See **WEATHER**, Page 9

During Storm Crisis

KCCD Makes Big Difference To Correctional Families in Need

When corrections staff in Frankfort learned just how bad things were in the western part of the state, they tapped an organization to which they belong: the Kentucky Council on Crime and Delinquency (KCCD). KCCD is made up of professionals throughout the criminal justice system including adult corrections, juvenile justice, law enforcement and community corrections.

KCCD purchased over \$5,600 worth of non-perishable food items, loaded it in vehicles and delivered it to 60 Correctional families in need. These families, like so many in Kentucky, had been dealing with complete power outages – outages that left them without heat, electricity and water. But these families had at least one member that regardless of the weather emergency were on their post, and probably longer than usual because of the disaster. In corrections, our public safety depends on it.

KCCD had learned we had staff eating crackers every day because of this disaster and the power outage, because all their food had spoiled and no stores were open. Then when the stores did open, the officers were on post.

The food was delivered and made a significant difference to the affected families.

- Also during the severe ice storm, KCIW assisted the Four Rivers Chapter of KCCD by sending \$100 in Kroger gift cards. The cards were used to purchase food and the KCCD chapter members cooked hot meals for all staff at Kentucky State Penitentiary. Approximately 250 meals were prepared for one day.

Weather

From Page 8

crews worked in Boyle, Garrard, and Mercer counties in the aftermath of the storm.

– At Eastern Kentucky Correctional Complex in West Liberty, 15 inmates worked continuously to clear trees and storm damage from roadways. One crew of five inmates assisted the local power cooperative (Licking Valley R.E.C.C.) in getting the road cleared so equipment and trucks could be brought in.

– At Roederer Correctional Complex in La-Grange, they worked with the Highway Department to have tree limbs brought to the prison for a controlled burn.

– From the Western Kentucky Correctional Complex – 15 minimum-security inmates worked nearly round-the-clock on road-cleaning and storm cleanup.

– From Kentucky State Penitentiary a crew of 10 minimum-security inmates immediately began removing fallen trees and limbs from Hwy 730.

– From Green River Correctional Complex – Three work crews, a total of 15 inmates, worked continuously to clear roads.

– State inmates at county jails also worked to remove ice, snow & debris from city, county and state highways and bridges; they unloaded supplies at shelters and provided additional labor for local county road departments.

In the Division of Probation & Parole, no offices sustained permanent damage. Central and Mid-Western offices were inoperable for approximately three days with lingering network and phone issues for as much as a week thereafter.

Unsung Heroes: Maintenance Crews Help DOC Weather Storm

By Lisa Lamb
Director of Communications

They're the people behind the scenes. The Corrections employees you don't hear a lot about – unless something isn't running properly, breaks or leaks.

You don't usually hear a lot of complaints out of this group either ... probably because they're too busy making sure the equipment (oftentimes antiquated) at our institutions does run properly, doesn't break or leak.

The DOC Maintenance Crews at our prisons were anything BUT behind the scenes during the Storm of 2009, however,

when they performed miracles at a few institutions, bargained for fuel for others and generally worked furiously to do everything they could to bring their facilities back to some semblance of normalcy.

It was a different situation at each facility, each with its own unique challenges that the maintenance crews adapted to in order to resolve the problems as quickly as possible.

While it would be impossible to thank everyone who went the extra mile during the Storm of 2009, it would be remiss *not* to recognize the efforts of our Maintenance Crews.

The majority of offices west of the Pennyridge Parkway were inoperable for a week with lingering issues as long as two weeks thereafter.

The saving grace of these offices was the fact that offenders were iced in as well. Therefore, the lack of services was offset by a lack of demand for those services. The only lasting effect that the Division foresees is the accumulation of compensatory and/or overtime as officers struggle to makeup missed contacts with offenders.

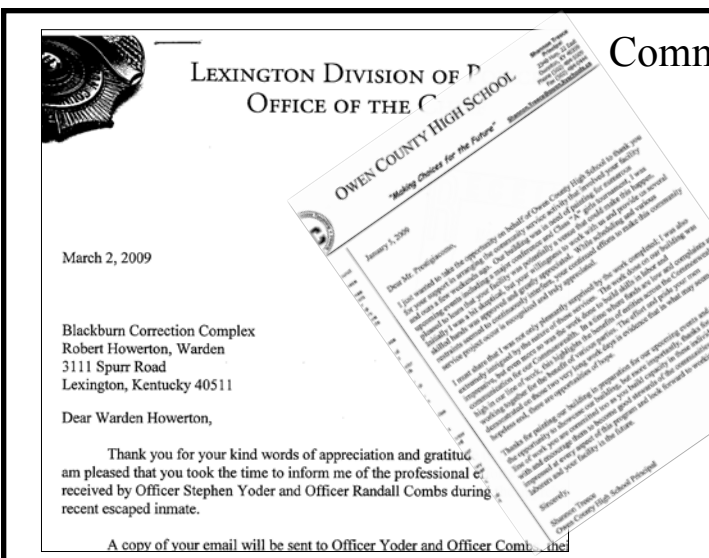
(Editor's Note: On Page 15, read the note inmates wrote to KSP administrators after they learned how bad storm conditions were outside the walls of the prison.)

Community Leaders Take Time to Say 'Thanks'

We all like them - notes of appreciation or some other form of recognition for a job well done. These two letters are just two examples of the many Central Office receives acknowledging the great work underway within Kentucky Corrections.

One letter, from a high school principal, thanks Frankfort Career Development Center for sending minimum security inmates to the school to paint. The other, from Lexington Police Chief Ronnie Bastin, thanks Blackburn Warden Rob Howerton for acknowledging Lexington officers' professionalism and for expressing his gratitude to the police.

A little bit of appreciation goes a long way!



Employee News



The Louisville KCCD Chapter in conjunction with Paws with a Purpose held a "Trivia Night" fundraiser recently to benefit both organizations. Above members of the group took time out to pose for a photograph after the event. Top right: FCDC Deputy Warden Gary Prestigiaco made a new friend at the fundraiser. Bottom right: CRTC Branch Manager Mary Godfey posed with the basket she won during the White Elephant raffle.



Seniors Treated To Special Valentines' Day Event

By Allison Clifton
KCCD Capitol Chapter President

Too often seniors in our communities are pushed aside or attention postponed in the rush of our deadline driven and multi-tasked society. Members of the Kentucky Council on Crime and Delinquency took time out of their lives to make sure that those who raised us, taught us, and mentored us in the past did not feel forgotten this last Valentine's Day 2009.

Staff sponsored and organized a Valentine's Party for the residents of the Charleston Retirement Facility. About 60 facility residents enjoyed Valentine refreshments, crowning a King and Queen, karaoke, and given stuffed animals and other Valentine themed gifts.

I'm proud to know and work with such thoughtful giving people who take the time to ensure the betterment of our neighbors and society.



District

From Page 2

Preparation of the PSI

The preparation of the PSI is usually an offender's initial contact with the Kentucky Department of Corrections. It is at this time that each offender generally develops his or her first impression of the Department.

The basic information one will find in a PSI is case information and crime story; identification data; marital and family history; social history; education history; employment and economic history; medical and mental health history; substance abuse/use history; criminal history/arrest record; and case summation.

Officers and investigators assigned a PSI will complete the report via interviews and reviewing documents. Most interviews are of the offender though in some situations interviews of the offender's family, victim(s), and law enforcement may be made in the construction of the report.

Documents that the officer or investigator may be required to review are court dockets, plea agreements, investigative reports from other agencies, previous probation or parole records, medical and mental health records, educational records, employment records, and financial records. Each record must be carefully reviewed to determine the accuracy of the record.

Recently, the officer/investigator has been vested with the duty to scan copies of birth certificates, driver licenses, or other identifying documentation into the KOMS to assist in getting the offender identification when released from prison.

Each report must be clear and concise. Opinions are only entered on the

summary page and must be noted as opinion. It is on this page that the officer/investigator reports on the offender's strengths and weaknesses and begins the development of a supervision plan to be utilized when the offender is supervised in the community.

Importance of the PSI

Generally, many believe that the PSI is just a report to assist a court to ensure the appropriate sentence is given to an offender. This is in reality just a fraction of the documents total importance. The PSI is also a valuable tool in assisting the Department of Corrections as a whole in the areas of inmate housing, community supervision, and treatment of offenders in and outside of prison.

The Standards for Adult Probation and Parole Field Services – 3rd Edition published by the American Correctional Association notes that the PSI "report is the basic working document on which the courts, releasing authorities, supervision staff, and researchers must rely." I can personally attest to the accuracy of this statement from my prior and current experience in adult institutions, mental health, and community corrections.

In the prison system, some, but not all, of the uses for the PSI include the determination of inmate emergency contacts; alerting staff to any medical or mental health issues; developing visitation list; provide information to Security Threat Group coordinators in the validation process on potential gang members; alert staff to possible conflicts between inmates; and assist in inmate classification.

In community corrections, the document is utilized when developing supervision plans; completing risk assessments; and in placement and transfer investigations. Research-

"... many believe that the PSI is just a report to assist a court to ensure the appropriate sentence is given to an offender ... it is also a valuable tool in assisting the Department of Corrections as a whole in the areas of inmate housing, community supervision, and treatment of offenders in and outside of prison."

Harley Allen

*Supervisor
P&P District 4*

ers at the University of Kentucky and Eastern Kentucky University, in cooperation of the Department of Corrections, have utilized information within offender PSI's in research on substance abuse and property crime in Kentucky.

Law enforcement agencies may review specific offender PSI's to assist in their investigation of potential new criminal offenses. Additionally, the PSI is utilized by the Parole Board as one of many tools in determining whether to grant parole or issue a deferment or serve out.

Based on the above it is clear that the PSI is an important document for the department and the offender since it is the 'basic working document' utilized throughout a majority of the offender's interaction, from sentencing to case closure, with the criminal justice system.

(Editor's Note: "From the Field" is a column featured in Inside Corrections and guest columnists are Probation & Parole District Supervisors, Branch Managers or others in the field of Community Corrections.)

KSP Receives Unexpected Note Of Thanks

To: that the Administration, Wardens and all of the Eddyville Prison Personnel. I and a lot of other inmates would like to give a warm-hearted thanks For all of yalls time, consideration, and ever all efforts during this storm of 2009. A lot of us really had no idea the seriousness of this winter storm. The affects that it truly had on you'lls Family, Friends, or communities. The realization finally hit us after being able to watch the 10 o'clock news for the first time last night. Seeing people crying because they had no where to go, or because a loved one was found deceased because they had frozen to death. 26 people lost their lives. It truly was

If God cares so wonderfully for flowers
that are here today and gone tomorrow,
won't he more surely care for you?

MATTHEW 6:30 (NLT)
a state of emergency. You all took the time away from you alls Family, Friends

and communities, who were in wiser shape than us, to come to work, and did the best that yall could given the circumstances. We all recognize and appreciate it very much. We apologize for the frustration that some of us all vented. We had no idea just how serious this winter storm '09 was.
He cares just as gently
and warmly for you.

Thank You All, and May God show favor and blessing to all of you during this trying time.

Respectfully,
Eddyville Inmates

New Payroll System, KHRIS, Expands, Improves Services

By Stephanie Appel
DOC Personnel Director

In 1982, the Personnel Cabinet worked hard to implement a Uniform Personnel and Payroll System which was seen as their "system for the future." However, the world has changed in the last twenty-six years since implementation of the UPPS System.

In 1982, Ronald Reagan was President, the United States and the Soviet Union were still in the period of the

Cold War, Diet Coke was introduced, the first permanent artificial heart was implanted in a human, the space shuttle Columbia made its first voyage into space; the cost of a U.S. Stamp was 20 cents, Michael Jackson released his album Thriller, the Weather Channel first aired on cable for the first time, the car brand Toyota Camry was introduced and the first Double Stuff Oreo was sold!

Looking back on where we were 26

years ago puts into some perspective on how things have changed, especially in technology. In fact, some personnel and payroll processes we currently use date back to the late 1970's! Based on the urgent need for change, the Personnel Cabinet has worked for the past three years on transforming to a new payroll, personnel and benefits system known as KHRIS (Kentucky Human Resources Information Systems).

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KHRIS

From Page 12

With the implementation of KHRIS, we are able to expand and improve services to our human resource professionals as well as to deliver services directly to our customers...the employees and benefits participants of the Commonwealth.

KHRIS will replace and consolidate KRONOS, Employee Suggestion System (ESS), Click HR, Uniform Personnel and Payroll System (UPPS) and Group Health and Life Insurance Systems. This new web-based system features real-time updates and retrieval while eliminating duplicate data entry, stor-

age and processing. In addition, data entry errors will be reduced. The overall goal is to produce a Commonwealth-wide system which adapts best practice process to fit the unique requirement of state agencies.

KHRIS will transform the way state government does business and will offer state employees more control over many important aspects of their job. With KHRIS, employees will have instant "real time" access to their individual personnel information.

For the first time, every employee will be able to maintain his or her own timesheet, file leave requests and make home address information changes in the system. Employee will be able



to view their pay stub, check leave balances and enroll in their state health insurance plan directly from their home or work computer!

The target implementation date for go-live of the KHRIS system was March 31. A new implementation date has not yet been set. Staff from the Department of Corrections, Division of Personnel, are continuing to travel to your offices/institutions to train you how to use the system. We look forward to working with you as we embark on this exciting endeavor!



Stephanie Appel is the Treasurer for the IPMA-HR Southern Region and serves on the IPMA-HR Southern Region Governing Board. She was recently recertified by IPMA-HR (International Public Management Association for Human Resources). Appel was originally certified three years ago and the re-certification process is every three years. She has now fulfilled the criteria to renew her designation as an IPMA-Certified Professional and is currently the only one in all of state government to hold the distinction.

It's Almost Here!

Correctional Employees Week

May 4 - May 9

"Correctional Employees Week is a nationally-recognized week to pay tribute to the men and women of Corrections who devote their lives to our mission of public safety. I thank you for the great job you do each and every day for the Kentucky Department of Corrections and I look forward to recognizing you year-round and especially during the 2009 Correctional Employees Week."

Commissioner LaDonna Thompson

Seven Honored for Attendance

As an employee incentive program, the Department calculated employee attendance recently and seven employees had perfect or near perfect attendance. The seven will receive a jacket from KCI in recognition of their achievement.

Perfect: Russell Pridgen, P&P Officer, District 12; Rebecca Humble, P&P Investigator District 10; Moneik Edgersen, P&P Officer, District 4; John Vanhoose, P&P Officer, District 11; Randel Caudle, Correctional Officer, KSR; Wayne Herner, Mental Health, Psy Lic PO AD; Paul Beckham, KSR Security.

Kentucky Deferred Comp Can Make Secure Retirement A Reality For State Employees

By Christopher Helvey
Staff Assistant
Kentucky Deferred Comp

Are you planning on a Secure Retirement? Many investment professionals estimate you'll need 100% to 125% of your current income to maintain your standard of living when you're in retirement.

Chances are, Social Security benefits and your state retirement plan (KRS) won't provide enough income to maintain your standard of living.

It's smart to consider other options like Kentucky Deferred Compensation (Deferred Comp), a state agency that provides the following supplemental retirement plans and options:

- IRC 457 Plan
- IRC 401(k) Plan that includes these options:
 - Roth 401(k)
 - Deemed Roth IRA
 - Deemed Traditional IRA

These options let you plan for your retirement with your own voluntary contributions.

Kentucky Deferred Comp: 10 Good Reasons

1. It's affordable. Start deferring with as little as 1% of your pay.

2. It's convenient. You

can invest the easy way... through payroll deduction.

3. Investments are made tax-deferred. That means that you don't pay federal or state taxes on your contributions and any investment earnings until your money is paid out to you. Then, they are considered withdrawals and taxed as ordinary income.

4. You may also pay lower taxes when you receive your payout: 1) You may be in a lower tax bracket after you retire, 2) Under current state law, a significant portion of your Deferred Compensation distributions at retirement may be excludable from Kentucky state income tax.

5. There's no open enrollment. Join at any time.

6. Kentucky Deferred Compensation is your One-Stop-Shop for supplemental retirement needs.

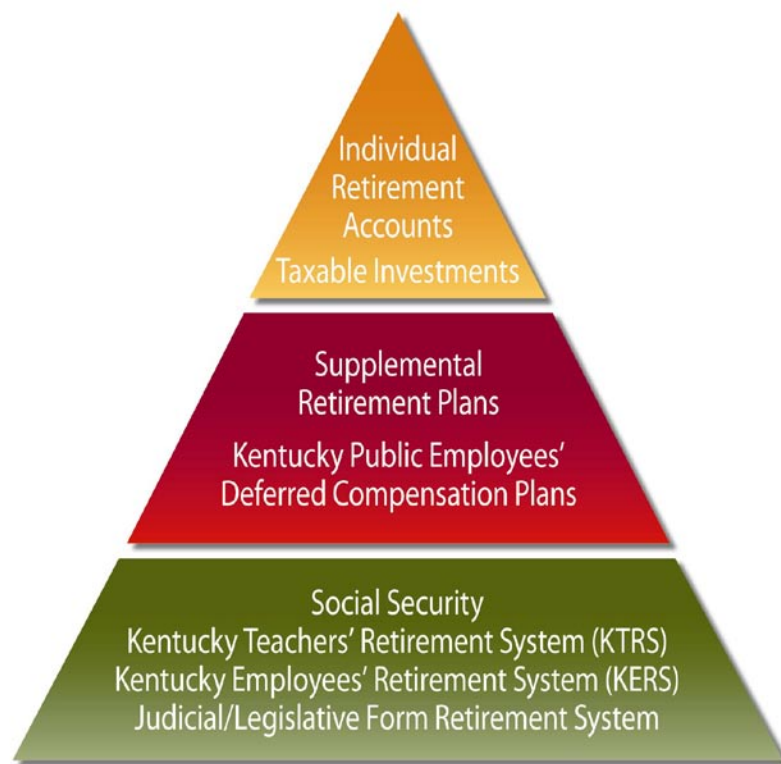
7. You can choose from a variety of investment options — from conservative to aggressive. And you can choose from two investment styles: select and monitor them on your own, or select a lifecycle fund that is professionally managed with your anticipated retirement date in mind.

8. It is easy to make changes: anytime on the Web at www.kentuckydep.com, or by contacting our Customer Service Center in

Frankfort at 800.542.2667 during normal business hours.

9. Your Social Security and retirement benefits are not affected by your contributions under the Deferred Comp plan(s).

10. Administration is provided by Kentuckians — real folks, just like you. Kentucky Deferred Comp Headquarters is in Frankfort at 101 Sea Hero Rd., Suite 110. Call us today!



KCIW's Cookie Crews Honored



KCIW Warden Cookie Crews was honored at the "Night of Distinguished Professionals" hosted by Eastern Kentucky University's College of Justice & Safety. Crews was the recipient of the Truett Rick's Award. This annual award recognizes outstanding contributions to justice & safety in Kentucky over an extended period of time. According to the selection committee, Warden Crews was chosen for this award because of "her contributions to the corrections community and her dedication to inspire young men and women to seek careers in public service in order to make positive contributions to their communities."

**Check
out the
2008 DOC**

Accomplishments

at [www.http://
corrections.ky.gov/
about/employees.htm](http://www.corrections.ky.gov/about/employees.htm)



Blackburn Warden Robert Howerton was interviewed by a WTVQ-TV news team after the graduation ceremonies. The event received widespread media coverage. At right, inmate Manyell Reed and his dog Damien listened intently to Justice & Public Safety Secretary J. Michael Brown who attended the event. Following the graduation event, six new dogs arrived at the prison later the same day to begin training.

Canine

From Page 1

"This type of programming for offenders works. They are also relatively inexpensive to launch in the way of start-up costs, in comparison with so many other types

of programming opportunities," said Deputy Commissioner Al Parke. "Because we are partnering with other organizations, like a Humane Society, to provide the training aspect of what's needed, our costs are minimal."

Blackburn is already

known for its unique program of nurturing retired race horses while offering accredited vocational skills to inmates - now with "Canine Companions" the prison has a program designed to make the animals more adoptable while also providing rehabil-

itative and job prospects for the inmates involved.

The six-week course provides basic obedience training to the dogs. The Lexington Humane Society provides a trainer who comes to the prison and works with the inmates and dogs.